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September 15, 19[illegible]

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The Honorable Edmund S. Muskie
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Muskie:

The situation in South Korea is quite alarming. I am distressed about the repressive measures of the right-wing military leadership and the complete denial of any democratic rights. It is a strange situation that our government, which prides itself on its democratic principles, should continue to support the President of South Korea, General Chun Too-Whan, who is arresting many Christians and students simply for advocating a return to representative civilian government.

I write particularly out of concern for Kim Dae-Jang, the courageous leader of the democratic forces who now faces trial and possible execution. Surely it will be possible for you to intervene before it is too late. There will be an international outcry if his life is taken for such an unfair charge. I am asking for his immediate release.

It is shocking to learn that General John Wickham, the ranking officer of the American Army in South Korea, supported the military takeover. He should be recalled at once and reprimanded for his continued interference in Korean political affairs.

There is no justification for your administration to keep on supporting the repressive government in South Korea. Act now to suspend aid to that country, including loans and export credits, until representative civilian government is restored.

Sincerely yours,

Kitty Helm

Kitty Helm

Miss Kitty Helm

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